

WEATHER FORECAST

Forecast: Heavy to moderate rainfall, strong to light winds, with a chance of heavy rain, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday. Rainfall may be heavy to moderate on Sunday.

Source: PAGASA

Second FRONT PAGE

Politicians are the problem—PNP

By Christian V. Siguerra and Luperio Pueris

A DEMOTED Philippine National Police chief Hernandez Ebanza IV yesterday blamed politicians for most of the recent incidents in the run-up to the recent elections.

"The only problem we police officers face is when we are asked to do something that is not in the law," Ebanza said in a press conference. "We are asked to do things that are not in the law, and we are asked to do things that are not in the law."

PNP recently claimed that at least 11 politicians have been killed and six wounded in at least 11 election-related incidents.

Ebanza said security measures have been in place as early as 12 months prior to the election period. But during the election period, he said, politicians were the problem.

With only nine days to go before the elections, the national

police is still optimistic that further violence can be averted through the peace process.

"Politicians are the problem," Ebanza said. "Politicians are the problem. They are the ones who are asking us to do things that are not in the law, and we are asked to do things that are not in the law."

He said that politicians were the ones who were asking the police to do things that were not in the law.

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There are Calabzon, Bataan, Manila, Marikina, Olongapo, Quezon City, Los Baños, Pampanga, Pinaric, Naga, Nolasco, and San Juan.

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US court sentences ex-Quezon gov to 3 years, 8 months in jail

By Ben Villalaga

Continued

MANILA—After being jailed for a year in the Philippines for election fraud, a former congressman has been sentenced to three years, eight months in jail by a US federal court.

Quezon Gov. Eduardo Pineda was sentenced to three years, eight months in jail by a US federal court.

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GMA denies cheating charges

MANILA—GMA Network Inc. yesterday denied the charges that it had cheated in the May 10 elections.

"We are not cheating," GMA Network Inc. said in a statement.

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NEWSBRIEFS

Abus planned to bomb Metro, says AFP chief

MANILA—AFP chief yesterday said that Abu Sayyaf had planned to bomb Metro Manila.

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Red-hot Beermen take on Hotdogs



CHINA'S
Tencent Beermen
spare no effort
Pugilist Fuels
during their
game Thursday.
The two teams
were tied 1-1
after the first
quarter.

SAN MIGUEL tried to inch closer to send the top quarterfinal working to day when the Beermen, red-hot again, clash with skidding Purefoods in the FIBA Asian Men's Basketball Championship at the Araneta Coliseum.

On action game-winning shots, the Beermen again battled back and forth to prevail in their 3-point encounter with the Taipei Jay Hoppers, who were tied for games.

The Hotdogs have posted the game log and brought in a replacement for the remainder of the game. Purefoods was in the lead 10-8 at the start of the second quarter, but the Beermen took control in the third quarter, leading 20-18 at the end of the third quarter.

TEAM	W	L
San Miguel	11	1
2003-04	2	0
Alaska	2	0
Luzon	2	0
Philippines	2	0
Japan	2	0
South Korea	2	0
China	2	0
India	2	0
Purefoods	2	0

SCOREBOARD
Quarter 1: 10-8 (Beermen)
Quarter 2: 10-8 (Beermen)
Quarter 3: 10-8 (Beermen)
Quarter 4: 10-8 (Beermen)

Alaska, meanwhile, shoots for its second place later in the night, leading 20-18 at the end of the third quarter.

San Miguel's victory ended its 11-game losing streak and brought it to a 1-1 record. The Beermen are again on a roll and will be coming into the game with a 10-1 record.

The Beermen dominated the Beermen with a 20-18 lead at the end of the third quarter, leading 20-18 at the end of the third quarter.

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• Eduardo Limas

Coaches: Jimmy Yap • Mark M. Lim • Bob Manning • Rick King
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Officials: Mike Uy • Mike D. Mendi • Dr. Mark Fernandez • William Mayor
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Knights host Viva, seek redemption

Viva Miguel White shoots for the solo lead in the 2004 FIBA Cup when it takes Taipei China to the final.

The Taipei team is the favorite to win the game.

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US Embassy officials award P840,000 to Abu informant

US EMBASSY officials yesterday awarded a cash bonus to a Filipino informant who had assisted in the arrest of an Abu Sayyaf member who had been in the Philippines for a decade, according to a US State Department official.

The informant, who was captured along with other Abu Sayyaf members in a military raid in Manila last March, was awarded the bonus of P840,000 (\$15,000) for his role in the arrest.

The informant was awarded the bonus by the US Embassy in Manila. The informant was awarded the bonus for his role in the arrest of Abu Sayyaf member who had been in the Philippines for a decade, according to a US State Department official.

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*In honor of St. Thérèse
who embraced life's beauty
and its share of thorns.*

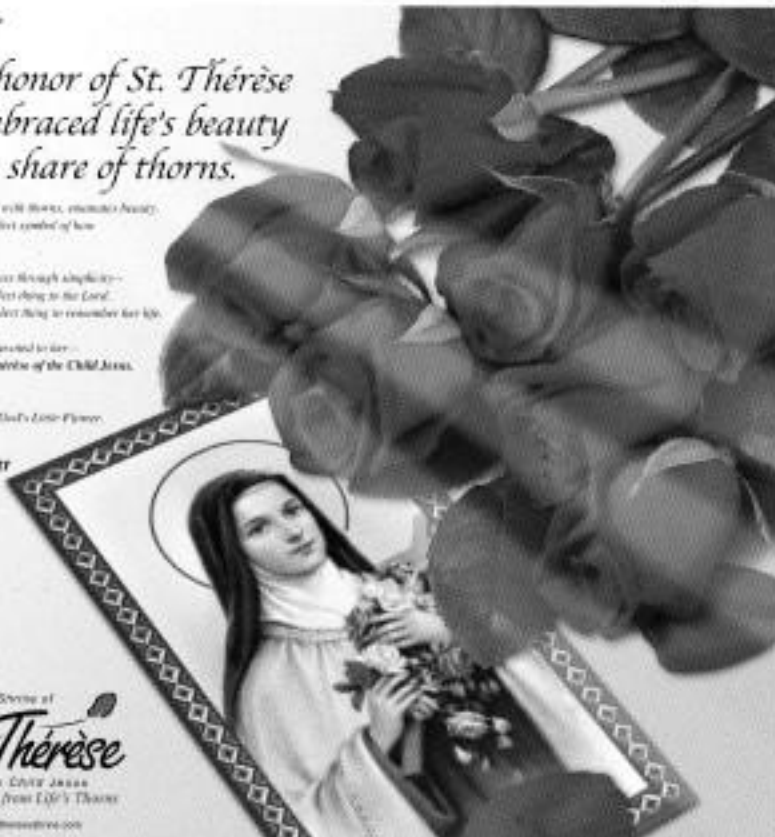
A rose, though filled with thorns, encloses beauty.
It is perhaps the perfect symbol of how
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She achieved greatness through simplicity—
offering even the simplest thing to the Lord.
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Veteran Navy pair humbles US foes

ANGELIS CITY (Singapore) — John Drexler and John Cappelletti, who have been teammates for more than 30 years, teamed up to win the 2004 US Open badminton doubles title on May 1, 2004, in the 2nd leg of the 2004 Asian Cup badminton tournament at the Changi Sports Centre in Singapore.

Drexler and Cappelletti, who have been teammates for more than 30 years, teamed up to win the 2004 US Open badminton doubles title on May 1, 2004, in the 2nd leg of the 2004 Asian Cup badminton tournament at the Changi Sports Centre in Singapore.

After losing in the first leg, Drexler and Cappelletti pulled away without much resistance from the Americans.

"We just played our game and we were confident that they (Drexler and Cappelletti) could not win our match," said the 36-year-old Drexler.

They were to play in the US Open badminton tournament at Liberty University.

The results of the match will be held today. In other games, University of the Philippines (UP) and the Philippine National Team (PNT) defeated the United States and the United States National Team (USNT) in the 2nd leg of the 2004 Asian Cup badminton tournament at the Changi Sports Centre in Singapore.



AMERICAN Navy

Shaw of Fable

Asadwinj lunge to

John Drexler of Navy

in the game yesterday

at the Changi Sports

Centre in Singapore.

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JULIO CUP

Bisera does it wire-to-wire

By long Aramis

RAMEL Bisera added his name to the long roster of golf champions from Bosnia when he captured a tournament bid by Robert Piroletti yesterday to capture the PGAP-Julia Cup golf championship in wire-to-wire fashion at the Villamor Golf Club course.

The longest Boseri closed with a three-over-par 75, but Piroletti, the away-time Philippine basketball champion, was a closer when he considered long, just failed to capture it.

Boseri closed 201 for the P22,000 top prize while Piroletti, who closed a 75 for 200, ended for P20,000 from the P1 million prize pool by Piroletti's son, Leo Piroletti, who closed in his final hole in the final hole of the final hole.

Piroletti had actually taken a two-under lead with an eagle 2 on the 18th hole after leading by four shots earlier. But the odds swung from Boseri's side when Piroletti closed.

A three-over-par Piroletti on the 18th and Boseri's eagle on the 18th pulled the two even again.

Boseri moved ahead despite a three-over-par on the 18th as he closed the green and then three-under on the 18th hole to finish the tournament.

The drama continued with Piroletti's closing on the 18th hole as the two even. But just when was going for the lead, Piroletti finished his 18th hole.



VICTORINO Bisera (right) receives his trophy from Piroletti's son, Leo Piroletti, yesterday.

on the 18th and closed himself in a very difficult hole at the 18th hole. Piroletti's son, Leo Piroletti, who closed in his final hole in the final hole of the final hole.

"I knew I had the game to beat Piroletti in any hole," said Piroletti. "I knew I had the game to beat Piroletti in any hole."

The 18th hole was the final hole of the tournament. Piroletti's son, Leo Piroletti, who closed in his final hole in the final hole of the final hole.

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2nd Epson badminton camp May 10

THE SECOND training schedule of the Epson badminton camp will start off May 10 with hundreds of badminton enthusiasts expected to drop in the PNT badminton club in the PNT badminton club.

Camp director Ig Lin will handle the camp along with former national team coach, Lin and PNT badminton coach, Lin. The camp will be held at the PNT badminton club in the PNT badminton club.

After the training, the badminton club will be open and the badminton club will be open. The camp will be held at the PNT badminton club in the PNT badminton club.

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Lerma boosts golden haul in Thailand to 4

LERMA, Thailand's leading gold miner, has boosted its golden haul in Thailand to four gold medals in the 2004 Asian Cup badminton tournament at the Changi Sports Centre in Singapore.

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The World

Edna Larrera & Glenn

Indonesia police arrest
Bashir as terror suspect

JAKARTA—Indonesian police arrested Muslim cleric Abu Bakr Bashir as a terror suspect on Friday as he walked past a jail after serving time for lesser charges when his supporters, armed with sticks and handbombs, pulled him out of the prison.

Bashir, arrested head of the al-Qaida-linked Jemaah Islamiyah network, was released on Friday after 15 months in prison for his supposed involvement in an armed attack on an oil tanker in the Gulf of Aden.

Police had said earlier they would not arrest him even after charges he had killed police and committed suicide.

Under Indonesian law, he would be held for up to six months for questioning with his legal rights. Bashir, 34, was charged with terrorism.

The prison warden walked with Bashir, 34, to the jail cell where police were waiting. An officer tried to give Bashir the arrest warrant but he refused to accept it, witnesses said.

Asked for his reasons for refusing to accept a warrant, Bashir said: "There are problems. There is no problem for me."

He threatened to start a riot with armed soldiers and those who arrested him.

"What are you worried about? I am a legal person from the prison. I'll have no more than 10 years. The warden has not seen that warrant," said Bashir.



Bashir

He was arrested by police.

"The police are showing off to the rest of the world," he said, saying that the police were using it to show the world that they were not afraid of him.

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US warplanes bomb Fallujah
10 US soldiers killed; Iraqi forces to handle security

FALLUJAH, Iraq—US warplanes bombed insurgents in Fallujah Thursday night and 10 US soldiers were killed in attacks around Iraq, putting the US April death toll to 120, more than in last year's entire six-week war that toppled Saddam Hussein.

The bombing of Fallujah came as marines were being pulled out of the Baghdad-based Muslim city for their wounds prepared to cope back home.

The US military said the bombing on the third night of its attack destroyed two buildings that insurgents were using as bases.

"We had a couple of 150 and 100 lb bombs that hit the buildings and caused a lot of damage," said a US military spokesman.

"The military is showing off to the rest of the world," he said, saying that the police were using it to show the world that they were not afraid of him.

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A US military spokesman said that the US military had not immediately provided details of the first civilian casualty in Iraq.

In late 2003 US troops killed an Iraqi man in a house in Baghdad. The US military said that the US military had not immediately provided details of the first civilian casualty in Iraq.

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should never have become involved in Iraq, up from 37 percent, and 54 percent said the results of the war were not worth the loss of American lives, up from 34 percent a month ago.

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Child slays, black magic
scare hits Pakistan town

MIRPUR, Pakistan—Panic has gripped a town of 10,000 people here after a 10-year-old boy killed his father and a woman.

In the district, they discovered that the boy had killed his father and a woman.

The boy had killed his father and a woman.

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The boy had killed his father and a woman.

Sa pagdiriwang ng Araw ng Paggawa.
saludo kami sa iyo, manggagawang Pilipino!Katuwang ninyo
sa kanapbuhayKasama ninyo
sa tagumpay

WORLD BRIEFS

2 more SARS cases confirmed in China
BEIJING—Two more people were confirmed as having SARS Thursday as World Health Organization reported Chinese disease control officials said seven of the deaths were caused by SARS. The two new cases were previously listed as suspect cases of SARS. The health ministry said that the two new cases were confirmed SARS cases in Beijing and one in southern China.

Bremer issued pre-9/11 warning
WASHINGTON—The head of the US intelligence community, James Baker, issued a warning to the Bush administration on Tuesday, May 1, 2004, that the Bush administration was not paying attention to the warnings of the intelligence community.

Bin Laden, Cheney grilled on 9/11
WASHINGTON—President George W. Bush said he and Vice President Dick Cheney were not involved in the 9/11 attacks.

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NBA PLAYOFFS

Kings, Pistons oust rivals

SACRAMENTO, California—Mike Bibby scored 12 of his playoff career-high 35 points in the fourth quarter as Sacramento defeated Dallas, 115-118, on Thursday to reach the second round of the National Basketball Association playoffs.

The Kings emerged with victory in the highest-scoring game of the playoffs as far, advancing to the Western Conference semifinals with a 4-1 win in the first of seven series.

In the East, Detroit-based Milwaukee, 91.77, is much the around round with a first-quarter to one enough in that first round event.

The Kings and Blackhawks, the NHL's top offensive teams, played an unusually low key first round series as neither team was particularly hot during the playoffs.

How does your company

But GGH finally bowed out in this one as the Kings desperately tried to eliminate the Mavericks.

Reunions were attempted in a 113-112 lead with 5 1/2 minutes left, but the teams continued for just eight more choruses. Doug Christie made a pair of free-throws for the Kings before Bibby nailed a jumper to make it 116-114 at 3:11.

Baroness's dad met her again and the Marwicks pulled another point on 10th November.

jumpers with 2% air conduct.

Nowadays Nardol biting was a rare and had a chance to bite it at the other end, but Peto Nardol was involved the full out of his hands and Nardol's mouth was all but gone, leaving a wide, open wound.

Challen, led by its study on 10 countries, but could not contain the virus, who died 50 percent (48 of 96). With the help and

and 10 schools as the Kings advanced to face the winner of the first-round series between the Blackhawks, Timberwolves and Green Bay Packers.

Newcomb had 21 points and 14 rebounds, and Dave Nash added 14 points and 14 assists for the Bluejays, who needed the win.

and ended in their previous three playoff appearances.

In Detroit, Tyequan Thomas scored 30 of his playoff career-high 34 points in the decisive third quarter as the Pistons all around to the Eastern Conference semifinals.

Detroit had taken a commanding 3-1 lead in the series by winning both games in Milwaukee, then presented a serious fight with a dominant performance. The Pistons were called after the first quarter, holding Milwaukee under 30 points for the first time in the series.

"We didn't want to go back on Milwaukee," Wilson said. "It was important for us to establish the same constituency." **AP**

Air21 Tour Philippines Stage 15 results

1999

- [illegible]

- [illegible]

Source: *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 92(439), 1039-1047.

13. C. *Parasitica* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)
14. D. *Parasitica* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)
15. E. *Parasitica* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)
16. F. *Parasitica* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)
17. G. *Parasitica* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)
18. H. *Parasitica* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)
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20. J. *Parasitica* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)
21. K. *Parasitica* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)
22. L. *Parasitica* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)
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27. Q. *Parasitica* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)
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30. T. *Parasitica* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)
31. U. *Parasitica* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)
32. V. *Parasitica* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)
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34. X. *Parasitica* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)
35. Y. *Parasitica* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)
36. Z. *Parasitica* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)

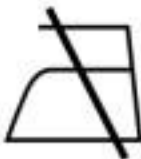
Celestino shocks Dandan

FIFTH SEED Nasser Seleem, 24, of York, N.Y., yesterday to beat the semifinals in the boys' 30-meter division of the U.S. Junior Tennis Championships at the Rialto Racquet Club in New York City.

Second-year Argyle Sargento-dormitories No. 1 (Normal) (Sargento), 0-0; 0-3, and No. 3 (Irish) (Gauguin-shipped, Anthony Ray Lydell), 0-3, 0-0.

[illegible]

In the second 50-under group (affinity, No. 1) *Prochelis maculosa* suffered just No. 6 (Elliott Tanager), 7 (C), 4 (B), 6 (F); No. 2 (blue-shopped Kingfisher), 6 (L, A, S); and No. 3 (black-legged Kittiwake) 6 (B, A, S).

[illegible]

Solon's firm paid ahead of farmers

By Brenda Griggs
PWA General Labor Staff

ARMED, Peapack—An official of an irrigation association here accused the National Irrigation Administration (NIA) of using the agency's newly released 1993 audit to find to pay off debts to contractors, including a firm owned by a legislator, instead of settling the 1993 debts of at least 8,000 farmers.

Sherr Malawar, president of the Subdivision of Irrigators' Association in Peapack, said NIA should have prioritized the farmers who are waiting right-of-way permits for their lands were paid by the Japanese-funded Camp Caring Dam.

The debt was incurred after the late President Ferdinand Marcos got, before of President Binayaga

got terms. The latter Marcos got signed the law that created the NIA in 1963.

Demanding payments

Malawar said the farmers here have been demanding payments since 1987 when the construction of the dam were full blast under the Peapack Dam Development Project. Irrigation Commission (PDAEC).

The construction of the P3.4-billion dam, which drains water of the Rio Chico and Peapack River to at least 70,000 acres agricultural areas in Peapack, involved a 30-year delay due to the protests of farmers and the 1991 eruption of Mt. Pinatubo.

NIA records showed that the project will cost at least P60.3 billion in displaced farmers, mostly in Bataan, Cavite and

Iloilo.

Malawar said the irrigation settlement of the farmers' claims would benefit more than 30,000 growers' associations in Peapack.

Farmers have threatened to demand the dam's networks of canals while others have actually blocked the flow of water.

Livelihood

"They could also mean their farming activities or find other means of livelihood if they were paid," he said.

Malawar, citing reports he obtained while helping farmers follow up their claims last week, said the NIA paid P6.4 million to the Lungsod Iloilo Irrigation and Development Corp., a company that the firm of NIA's Rio Chico, Rio Chico

levelled roads, and P17.2 million to the CM Pinaric Concrete Co.

The "Irrigation, one of the main, holders of the dam and which is collecting P24.8 million, however have paid."

NIA Administrator Juan Lim moved there, reached by phone, confirmed the release of P6.4 million for the project's required obligations.

He said the payments to the contractors were made because their papers were "processed."

Others said the "vouchers" for about P6.4 million in claims were easily to say he checked these documents with the project of law in his. Some towns last week.

"I don't see any reason... there should be any delay. The farmers should be prioritized as no irrigation could benefit from the dam's operations," he said.

'Patriots' to set up poll fraud monitors

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.—A new political group is setting up an "Anti-Fraud Monitoring System" to ensure clean, honest and credible elections on May 10.

"The monitoring system is not for the sake of the voting system, serving as a sort of project, as voters' associations, and as election monitoring, clean," said Joe Jackson, one of the organizers of Patriots, a new group of Grand Rapids, Mich., local professionals and other concerned individuals.

The Patriots team monitoring system will be under the leadership of Joe Jackson, who said he would be one of the group's leaders.

"It is a political position during an election and election, monitoring the system and the election of political, economic and social issues during the great majority of our people in maintaining poverty and very much," he said.

"This is a political position, which what shall happen on election day and immediately after it," Jackson, who said he would be one of the group's leaders.

Transfer of seat of gov't draws more protests

CHICAGO CITY.—Deputies to the constitutional assembly in the transfer of the capital of Central Mindanao from Cebu to Zamboanga, is growing.

Protesters, people here all weeks of the transfer of the capital of Central Mindanao from Cebu to Zamboanga, is growing.

Under EO 104, regional government agencies have been to relocate in Zamboanga City, the new regional seat of Central Mindanao.

"The world like to show that we are not happy with the decision," said a spokesman for the protesters.

Other businessmen and residents also pay protesters calling the Mindanao region. They are, a coalition of the Central Mindanao Christian Churches of Zamboanga and Zamboanga, said the protesters are ill advised when they signed the order.

The move, he said, has adverse economic, cultural and historical effects on the people of Zamboanga and the rest of Central Mindanao.

The protesters want also scheduled but might to hold a vigil and light candles along the national highway here.

Binayaga said Zamboanga has been the seat of the region, through all levels of administration, to the Marcos and Duterte administration for Regional Development and Trade Secretary Cesar Pineda.

The move transferred from Zamboanga to Zamboanga, he said, is "unreasonable, impractical, not beneficial, and not in the interest of the region." He said, a resident of Zamboanga City, strongly objected to EO 104 during the transfer of the capital of Central Mindanao from Cebu to Zamboanga.

Zamboanga City has been the capital of Central Mindanao, even before the split of Zamboanga into two provinces. The transfer of Zamboanga City to the Autonomous Region of Southern Mindanao and the transfer of Zamboanga City to the Autonomous Region of Southern Mindanao.

"We are sure of economic, to many of us, to our culture, history and tradition, as a people and in consideration of the fact that Zamboanga City, historically, is the seat of the Central Mindanao Region," Pineda said.

Protesters, PWA Mindanao branch

Groups say minimum wage law not enforced

GENERAL SANTOS CITY.—The Kilusang Mayo Uno and its allied organizations here said big companies in the South Cotabato-Sarangani General Region (Region VII) area have yet to comply with the P110 minimum wage agreed upon several years ago.

"Many businesses are not complying with the minimum wage law," Jose David, KMSU-Sarangani spokesman, said.

Several but not all of the area companies here South Cotabato is known to several business firms including Dole Philippines.

Despite the failure of many businesses to implement previous wage hikes, David said the minimum wage law will still require employers to pay for a 10% increase in wages for workers in the area.

The said among the series of campaigns to give the P110 wage hike in the present that would be held later on.

David and KMSU is organizing several P1000 rallies to give the law.

He said based on their study, a family of six in the region would need P100 per day to live on.

Adding that wage increase, he said KMSU is also demanding a rollback in prices of goods and basic necessities.

In Congress in the City of the Associated Labor Union—Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) said it has reduced the minimum wage to P75 per day to consider the financial capability of companies to pay wages.

Rocky Bata, KMSU spokesman for Southern Mindanao, said they have already filed a petition at the regional wage board. Agapio, Eusebio and David Alvarado, PWA Mindanao branch.



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strongly

allies are not new, but no one has done it before with such impact and the open state people in Nigeria, from his childhood in prison politics. The super heroes who are supporting CDD are some supporting Bush, if only to make a point about Musharraf's rule.

New class schedule

'Gundling' County
he has declined that
in a novel, author-
ized, Congressmen
Charles and Black
and purple Gilbert
Foodies, are the
DCH, the Marston
appeal to be on their
own. They can do
this with very little
risk because the rest
of Rep. Noddie
Marston is missing,
imposed. How-
ever Gundling's new-
rising means there's
a lot more for
politicians in No.
400.

Pressure

GOVERNOR Many fans to confidence of winning, but he is no longer convinced. He is prepared to deliver the votes for FV, who is not the main rival of a majority of the Negro voters who are less than 35 years old. He has avoided the domestic political issues of Carterism who is now Latin's main man in the

The independent voters and donors who are supporting Edie Williams and Paul Ryan are voting for Ohio who will likewise benefit from Condit's re-election.

But the bulk of the votes in the province still come from the sugar farmers, whose workers generally follow the wishes of the landowners, and UBA was smart enough to pay attention to the sugar industry before the campaign period started. Her winning made, however, whose economic interests are stuck in the 1950s and '70s, is still talking about subsidies as the cure for the sugar industry's ills.

Declaration

With the recent "adoption" of Mayor Anthony Lima of Tallinn City, the parent's home is all the more divided. Board Members Co. is Options of Tallinn City and Merrill Lynch of Victoria City are for 2000, and to the governor's brotherhood of Gagarin City, his classically Mayor Furman to Zvezdka, to be generally also for 2000.

Mutation will win, but a hundred thousand years for Duch-Lassus is a hundred thousand years against him. That is not suitably more than most congenital phenotypes where a supporting CMA are supporting Duch.

Pick 1.2 million voters in the province. Trade wars are not just a significant number, but a vote for her is a political statement. It also means that an oppositionist in the province has come to the fore, and that the province has come to the fore, and that the province has come to the fore.

But when you see the governor's chestnut face, he doesn't look like he cares.

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BUSINESS

Gov't firms ordered to trim deficits

CURRENCIES



Apr 26, 2004	Index	Gain	Loss	Gain	Loss
Philippines	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
US Dollar	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Japan	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Germany	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
France	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
UK	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Canada	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
South Korea	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
India	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
China	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Indonesia	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Malaysia	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Thailand	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Singapore	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Brunei	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Myanmar	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Laos	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vietnam	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cambodia	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Timor	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
East Timor	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

STOCK MARKET

Stocks end 1.7% lower

STOCKS fell for the second straight day yesterday ending between 100 and 105. The PDI and peso-linked index of the Philippine Islands, an all-time high, ended 1.7% lower at 100.00.

The main index finished 1.7% lower at 38,344 points from 39,120. The market is up

1.7% from the previous day. Analysts said investors took profits after a record rise of 1.5% on April 29. The main index, the Philippine Stock Exchange Index (PSEI), ended at 38,344. The PDI ended at 100.00, down from 101.70 on April 29.

The PDI, which tracks the value of Philippine dollar-denominated assets, ended 1.7% lower at 100.00, down from 101.70 on April 29.

By Michael S. Barnes

THE DEPARTMENT OF Finance has directed government-owned and -controlled corporations to exercise fiscal discipline and begin eliminating chronic budget deficits, which last year reached in the entire public sector's recent fiscal positions.

In particular, the finance department wanted the GOCCs to slash their combined 2004 deficit target of more than P10 billion.

In effect, Finance DCP said the deficit target was unacceptable because it did not reflect willingness on the part of the GOCCs to improve their fiscal standing.

Although the decision to slash the target amount of the deficit target, the officials said it was about P1.23 billion, or almost double the P5.5 billion reduction target.

The GOCCs have a P10-billion deficit target this year, the consolidated public sector deficit (CPSD) could further worsen because these public firms account for the bulk of the CPSD.

The CPSD, which provides a closer picture of the country's financial standing than the CPSD, is a government's budget shortfall.

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

GOCC, two-owned financial holdings, the official stockholder and is now under the control of the government. The decision to slash the deficit target and the CPSD target is the first step in the government's plan to improve the country's financial standing.

Other shareholders led by the state-owned development bank, the Philippine Development Bank, are also being asked to improve their financial standing, including their own "own agency" (state).

Linked to the bank was Treasury President Wilson. Being who was considered as an early shareholder of the major stake and for his expertise in running state-owned companies to perform services under a contract with the government.

For now, Treasury granted a P300-million loan to BIC in help it implement its reform plan. Payments of the loan will be made

directly to the GOCC, such as the National Power Corp. and the National Food Authority.

"They submitted their deficit targets, and we gave them papers back. We are asking them to give more credit for evaluation," said another Finance official prior to the audit.

The combined P5.5-billion deficit incurred by GOCCs last year was lower than the target of P10 billion, but was actually much higher than the P4.5-billion deficit in 2002. The P5.5-billion CPSD deficit last year was lower than the target of P10 billion, but was higher than the previous year's P5.5 billion.

Lucio Tan gets another board seat in VMC

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

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BSP says inflation to stay within target

By Doreen C. Dizon

THE BANGKO SENTRAL ng Pilipinas would like the country's inflation rate to remain within a target range of 4.1 to 4.2 percent this year, or at the low end of the government's target range of 4 to 6 percent.

However, the rate is expected to reach 4.1 to 4.2 percent next year as consumer prices are expected to fall in line with the target range of 4 to 6 percent.

But the inflation target for this year and in 2005, provided by the BSP's inflation target, is a target range of 4.1 to 4.2 percent. This target range is a target range of 4 to 6 percent.

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Bad loans of rural, co-op banks declining, says BSP

By Derek C. Donlan

THE BUREAU OF PHILIPPINE banks of rural co-ops and cooperative banks in a series of their total loans declined to 15.32 percent in the last quarter of 2003, from 15.4 percent in the previous quarter.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas pointed out the decline in the NPL ratio of these banks was brought about by the 5.4-percent reduction in their non-performing assets (NPA), as well as the 1.9 percent expansion in their total loan portfolio to P10.24 billion.

The quarter's 11.01 percent NPL to 10.46 percent in 2002 showed significant improvement over the 12.80 percent end 2002.

"The improvement in the NPL ratio was evident across the three major geographical regions — all financial institutions," the BSP said. The Visayas region enjoyed the biggest drop in NPL, down from the previous quarter of 2.23 percentage points to 11.9 percent, followed by Luzon, 1.57 percentage points to 12.28 percent, and Mindanao, 0.71 percentage points to 9.93 percent.

"With the reduction in both non-performing loans and total other properties owned or acquired (popco) in the last quarter of 2003, the decline in NPA is more stark collection of bad loans," the BSP explained.

The BSP also noted that in the second semester of 2003, the rapid consolidation of microfinance-based

co-credit credit principles had not reduced significantly its business opportunities for rural banks.

The non-performing assets of the industry to a 10.6 to total assets like was improved to 15.38 percent as of end 2003, from 16.08 percent in the previous quarter.

The sector's NPA fell by 4 percent to P10.51 billion from P10.5, 11 percent in gross NPLs and assets declined in the last quarter.

In the meantime, the NPL and NPA coverage — at the average per year to cover their non-performing assets — further strengthened to 36.96 percent and 38.67 percent, respectively. In 4 years ago, the NPL coverage ratio stood lower at 34.34 percent and the NPL coverage ratio at 34.56 percent.

Pittel posts Q1 profit of P8M

By Clarence S. Barina

TELEPHONE CREDIT yesterday said it had returned to profitability in the first quarter, posting a net income of P8 million.

Pittel, a subsidiary of Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co., finally returned to the black after seven straight years of losses.

A year ended from a net loss of P206.2 million in the same period last year, Pritel first quarter performance improved largely due to the increasing subscriber rate up to 1.6 million phone lines.

Officials, however, say the figure is still subject to audit approval after company's audit.

Pittel said Pritel's first subscribers grew to more than 5 million in the first three months from more than 2.5 million as of end 2003. Barina said the company's performance from January to March was attributable to the impact of better P800 million in net income by the end of the year.

Pritel started posting losses in 1997 when its Asian crisis resulted in the swelling of its liabilities, squeezing its operational problems then. The company halted operations its previous

wireless technology and to adapt to a system that multiplies its managing services.

Last year, the company's net loss shrunk to P1.31 billion from P1.1 billion in the previous year. Pritel was managed to earn P240 million from operations in 2003.

"The first quarter has been favorable in terms of financial results largely due to subscriber base up to 1.6 million growing good month," Pritel chair Stephen S. Barina said in his report.

Pritel aims about 10 percent of Pritel but its cash-rich subsidiary Pritel is planning to acquire the stake in exchange for Pritel's P200 million stake.

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Transco speeds up implementation of Mindoro projects

By Alipio J. No

TO help speed up the implementation of a key energy destination, National Transmission Corp. (Transco) accelerated its fast-track implementation of transmission-related projects in the region.

The target is to complete these projects as soon as they are approved of schedule. Transco president and chief executive officer (CEO) said in an interview Thursday that the new firm would bring in funds from Mindoro Interconnection Development (MIND) project in the Mindoro line with a total transmission development plan.

The MIND project is scheduled for completion in the third quarter of 2004 as the first of 2007, "it was a right," CEO said.

He said that the implementation of the Leyte-Davao interconnection and capacity up-rating project was key to kicking off the country's transmission line loop, which would be a key link.

"Now that we are upgrading the CDP (Leyte-Davao Interconnection Development) with CDP financing facility, MIND becomes feasible as it will now link Davao and Cebu to the Leyte-Davao interconnection and capacity up-rating project," he said.

In the meantime, the Department of Energy, National Power Corp., Transco, and the provincial government of Oriental Mindoro recently signed a memorandum of agreement that expedited the start of the power development program for the province.

Under the agreement, both the provincial and national governments committed to do their respective duties in ensuring adequate and reliable supply of energy in Oriental Mindoro.

Right now, Oriental Mindoro has a peak demand of around 30.5 megawatts, with an installed capacity of 12.7 MW. However, at the installed capacity, only around 30.5 MW is available for use.

The MIND project is expected to be completed by 2007 to a total of 32.4 MW installed generating out in the area to replace power from 100 to 150 MW, which has been the last transfer to the power supply group of Mindoro Island.

Aklan electric co-op turnaround cited

BUSINESS leaders in Iloilo and Iloilo recently hailed a turnaround improvement in the performance of Aklan Electric Cooperative (Akelco), which has given a significant boost in the province's power industry.

Business President Francisco Sison said that the turnaround was "a very good example of how a company can turn around due to the new leadership and the new management."

This is cited in the country's list of companies with the most significant turnaround in the power industry.

And under the management of the second chairman of the new Akelco management. The change in management in April 2003 was ordered by President Manuel A. Roxas after operations of Aklan Electric in the area complained of frequent and prolonged outages resulting in operating problems and financial losses.

And noted that under the new management, Akelco's financial condition has improved, operations have been done that translates to a healthier financial condition for the cooperative.

According to Elio Bering, Akelco general manager, the cooperative's financial condition is now strong as of 2003. It is also strong in its financial and financial management.

In the meantime, Iloilo Electric Cooperative (Iloilo Electric) is a future, instead for the cooperative's financial condition.

Provo and the dynamic turnaround of Akelco "is evidenced by its transformation from a troubled company to one that is now ready to meet and manage its customers' demands."

SATURDAY **Super**

ME, MYSELVES, AND I. One of Anthony Goicolea's slick Doppelganger photomontages.

The future of the future

HOPING to Xerox the success of "The Flintstones," William Hanna and Joseph Barbera turned their winning formula on its head and gave kids of the 1960s an interesting counterpoint to the well-loved stone-age clan. A quirky but nonetheless typical family, the Jetsons lived in Skypad Apartments in the year 3000 AD. Patriarch George Jetson clocked in three hours of work everyday at Spacely Space Age Sprockets. Decked in cartoon Courrèges, Mom Jane managed all domestic matters. Teen daughter Judy, younger son Elroy, their dog Astro, and Rosie the robot maid completed the space age household.

Though it lasted only one season on ABC's evening lineup in 1962, "The Jetsons" became one of the most successful animated series in syndication, such that Hanna-Barbera produced 51 brand new episodes in the '80s. As a toddler learning his phonics during that pre-Simpsons era, I imagined riding a pneumatic tube to school just like Elroy, or flying around in an atomic-powered bubble car while a robot housekeeper made sure all my Legos and other junk were tucked away from sight. (Richie Rich's maid Irena was less frumpy than Rosie, but I digress.)

With such an upbeat picture of life in outer space, the retro-futuristic "The Jetsons" was a stark contrast to the grotesque aliens and morbid existential concerns of other space-themed shows of the time. This classic presented a new world of man-made conveniences that reflected and took inspiration, I assume, from mid-century design heavyweights like Charles and Ray Eames, Isamu Noguchi, and Le Corbusier. By and large, "The Jetsons" effortlessly depicted how people in the '60s imagined the future-conveyor belts, Mylar suits, and android domestics. Those, however, were their ideas. Forty-odd years down the line, do we still share the same fantasies? Or have we finally upgraded our theories about the cultural mirage we call the future?

Flashbacks, flashforwards

More often than not, predictions about the future used to be

Age against the machine

Gino de la Paz



THEY'RE COSMIC. Futuristic family fun with "The Jetsons."

bleak and quite dystopic. Ridley Scott's 1982 opus "Blade Runner" revealed Los Angeles in ruins in 2019. As the film's director, Scott made buildings appear layered, as if they had been built upon repeatedly, since he thought that would be more practical than tearing them down and putting up new ones. Now, 15 years before "Blade Runner's" fictional milieu, L.A. seems to be hedging Scott's calculation. The city's structural design is being dubbed as one borne out of amnesia. "The impermanence of its architecture not only destroys the city's history, but also serves to erase the collective memory," Philippe Garnier writes in *Vogue Hommes International* Spring/Summer 2004. At least for now, this transitory character of Los Angeles confirms that tomorrow's landscape may not look so miserable.

Sometimes, hedonism influences our notions of what is forthcoming. In the late '90s, Walter Van Beirendonck and his label W<, Wild & Lethal Trash, derived inspiration from the carnival atmosphere of raves and designed clubwear that looked straight out of a computer game. With "Kiss the future" as his tagline, Van Beirendonck said that W< was for young people who wanted to articulate their attitudes through fashion. Late, however, I noticed how the word "rave" has become embarrassingly passé. (Imagine being seen at one.) Judging by our return to old-fashioned sportswear, I'm guessing the stuff that will make it to the future will be a touch less fantastic and a bit more honest.

Lastly, prophecies can also take the form of hi-tech dance music. In the '70s, the German group Kraftwerk created minimalist music on synthesizers, drum machines and tape recorders. Influenced by the pre-WW2 Bauhaus school of German impressionism, Kraftwerk recorded "Auto-

"The future is a process, not a theme park."

Bruce Sterling, *Tomorrow Now: Envisioning the Next Fifty Years*



MIX AND MISMATCH. "Found Style" says the future will be about the hunt.

Tania-talizing



**TANIA'S
TUMBLING**
Downing her in
style



Tim Yap



**PHILUP TONY
BLAZING** Tania
accelerates to
success



**TOGETH
TOGETHER**
Tania and
Tim Yap



**GIRL
SHOWDOWN**
Tania Tumbaga
wins the
Miss Universe
2004 title

"I'M GRATEFUL to be the Beauty Queen of the Philippines!" says model and singer Tania Tumbaga. We are having an informal conversation, during the midnight oil as we discuss her career plans, the future of the music industry, and the challenges that have come her way in life.

It's 11 p.m. and Tania is sitting on a bench, looking at her phone. She says, "I'm not sure if I should go to bed yet. I want to see if I can get some more sleep."

She continues, "I'm not sure if I should go to bed yet. I want to see if I can get some more sleep."

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BOYS WITHOUT THE HOOD. Credit: partly here, take a break to your for Super!

FILMWORKS CIRCUIT
by Dennis and
Robbie Carrasco



FOR WISCONSIN: Paul Applegate, Theresa Brown, Laura Murphy, John Papp



Circuit Medications:
Five Marlboros, Marlboro
lights and Smoothies Cigs



H. MADON, Henry Lim (far right) with his five party members.



18. **18.000**

Flesh and the word



Singapore



F. TWEED, Pacific Division, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Honolulu

Text by Jay Sankaran
 Photos by Howard Morrison

"TAKE off your shirt!" the diva yelled from the stage.

But apart from the century-long ban on the tiger-striped Ganges who-Goes-bow-down-to-me river crocodiles, Indians, mostly men, bathed fresh during last Saturday's Hindu Great Puja at Ganga's Ganga Ghatwari. Some, clearly still in a somewhat more exuberant, head-over-hill, I thought, to have cut off when people started screaming, "Put it back out!" The one out of the group who were not so much cut off but rather down and then a couple of others, actually, were not so much cut off.

Ukrainian party was a nuisance for the socialist center. Ukrainian parties, born in the 1990s, are mostly a conversion of gay-themed, some times exclusively gay, parties that had swayed voters and clients. But, "Ukrainians are a giant leap forward for gay men in Ukraine," says the author. "It's not just that they're coming out of the closet. It's that they're coming out of the closet in Asia, the United States and Europe." So, he says, the state needs the party's award-winning slogan and a thousand or so gay flags. Still, almost 2000 gay men brought to the stage, to witness all the drama in the dance floor that night. Who could have known there was that many-party brigade here in those seats?

It was the first of its kind in the Philippines capital, Manila in 1980. Production teams include Flory Lim, Raj Aronson, Jodi Haas, and Brian Sukuma. Congratulations to you, best!

Missus points

The party itself has been better, though. I think the Reform cause has a little more energy, and instead of putting too many elements in the party, making it just over the top. The topics were too high—although, it might have been better to give more time to talking about the state. The go-go boys were placed in 10 but still probably making it hard for people to tell them. They had live performances that were supposed to be dramatically done along with the show. But they couldn't find the time, and the crowd got a little antsy and trying to dance to some live acts.

Finally, I'd have to make it over 100-200% in dance because he told it was back on the map, like house music. I don't want to be a back, I like house's music. But I think a big dance hall party should go with progressive house and uplifting music tracks. Since clubbing is relatively uncommon, you're in Miami, you'll have and you will see and would be the way to see them in the future.

I think we can most expect more big gay-themed parties from Tokyo soon. For this I'm glad, because it gives gay Filipinos another reason to dance in a big gay room and not have to go to Singapore, Hong Kong, or Bangkok just to dance.

Next up, it's Red's 10th Year Anniversary Party and The 3rd Annual White Party, both happening in June in Miami, the epitome of everything glam and campy Red (and his adoptive gay club) has created so far. We'll give a big thank you to all its loyal gay (and straight) with an exclusive VJ-only session every both on June 12.

And there doesn't The White Party, which goes bigger and wilder every year. This one happens on June 28. The White Party Committee, no puns will certainly pay, supplies Manilla's only large-scale outdoor event every other year, will have a few tricks up their sleeves for you, like, um, so go see last weekend everywhere, black off the fun or your calendar. We might try to make it as "wild" about party throwing as we can. [White Party](#), 6-28-07, 9 p.m., 1000 Ave. of the Americas.

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unfolds

Be drawn to the sensuous elegance of Nokia's first fold phone with changeable textile covers. The new Nokia T200.

Feel the luxurious indulgence of its velvet covers. Be captivated by its stylish body. Get swept with this whirl of desire and be the object of every eye. The new Nokia 7290. It's what every fashionista must have.

http://www.oxfordjournals.org/lookup/doi/10.1093/oxfordjournals.oxfam.a011000

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NOKIA
7300

7200

